7: Gamble S-5 (1926-1927) 1933 AF12 North China AF12

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spending some $10 for white cloth, also paid 36 cents for the rent of special mourning clothes.

[822]

As red is associated with happiness rather than with mourning, it was surprising to find red cloth on the funeral accounts. It was used to make small red bats, which are sewed on the shoulders of the mourning gowns; and for the red on the heels of the white mourning shoes worn by the more remote younger relatives. Sometimes pieces of blue cloth are sewed on the shoulders of the mourning garments. This denotes the loss of a maternal relative.*

An elaborate Chinese funeral is a great sight. Preceding the catafalque is a long double line of men and boys carrying wreaths of artificial flowers, paper and cloth scrolls, embroidered silk umbrellas, flags, religious symbols, paper figures of servants; lions, deer, storks, summer-houses made of evergreen branches, a portrait of the deceased. Usually the procession includes a sedan chair and an old-style Peiping cart, sometimes a paper ricksha, paper horse and carriage, paper automobile. Musicians are part of the procession, and it is not unusual for families to have both the old-style horn and drum, and the modern band. Taoist, Buddhist and Lama priests often walk in the large processions. The immediate male relatives, dressed in coarse white mourning costume, walk directly in front of the coffin. A husband may walk in front of his wife's coffin, but it is her oldest son who is the chief mourner and carries the "soul flag." The mourners are often accompanied by friends, each of whom wears a white paper flower to show that he belongs to the funeral party. The coffin, placed on a large cata-

* No. 12.